notorious lewdness and blasphemy. Cf. discussion in Martin Fitzpatrick, 'Heretical Religion and Radical Political Ideas in Late Eighteenth-Century England', in *The Transformation of Political Culture: England and Germany in the Late Eighteenth Century*, ed. E. Hellmuth, Oxford, 1990, pp. 339–72; J.E. Bradley, 'Whigs and Nonconformists; "Slumbering Radicalism" in English Politics, 1739–1789', *Eighteenth-Century Studies*, 9 (1975–6), 1–27; and Robert K. Webb, 'The Emergence of Rational Dissent', in *Enlightenment and Religion: Rational Dissent in Eighteenth-Century Britain*, ed. Knud Haakonssen, Cambridge, 1996, pp. 10–35.

7. For an interesting account of the political behaviour and social status of Rational Dissenters in the 1770s and 1780s, see Seed, 'Gentleman Dissenters', pp. 304–24, and *idem*, 'A Set of Men "Powerful Enough in Many Things": Rational Dissent and Political Opposition in England, 1776–1800', in *Enlightenment and Religion*, pp. 55–80.
8. This view was put forward by Sheldon Rothblatt, 'George Eliot as a Type of European Intellectual', *History of European Ideas*, 7 (1986), 47–65.
9. McLachlan, *Warrington Academy*, p. 16. The criticism was true of some Oxford and Cambridge colleges but not all. See John Gascoigne, *Cambridge in the Age of Enlightenment*, Cambridge, 1989. See also his 'Anglican Latitudinarianism and Political Radicalism in the Late Eighteenth Century', *History*, 71 (1986), 22–38.
10. McLachlan, *Warrington Academy*, pp. 16–17.
11. H. McLachlan, *English Education Under the Test Acts: Being the History of the Nonconformist Academies 1662–1820* Manchester: The Chatham Society, 1931), p. 145.
12. McLachlan, *Warrington Academy*, p. 16.
13. Joseph Priestley, *Letter to Pitt* (1787), p. 128, quoted in Lincoln, English Dissent, p. 76.
14. Percival, *Memoirs*, p. lxxx.
15. Claeys, 'Virtuous Commerce', p. 2.
16. Claeys, 'Virtuous Commerce', p. 15.
17. Percival, *Memoirs*, p. ccxi.
18. Percival, *ibid.*, p. ccxi.
19. Percival, *ibid.*, p. li.
20. John Aikin, *Letters From a Father to His Son, On Various Topics, Relative to Literature and the Conduct of Life*, London, 1796, Vol. 1, pp. 4–5.
21. Quoted in Lincoln, *English Dissent*, p. 67.
22. Percival, *Memoirs*, p. liii.
23. McLachlan, *Warrington Academy*, p. 21.
24. Cf. his 'The Enlightenment, Politics and Providence: Some Scottish and English Comparisons', in *Enlightenment and Religion*, pp. 55–80. See also his '"This Candid and Liberal Method": The Teaching of Philosophy in the Liberal Dissenting Academies in the Late

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